

DRIFFIELD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT
of the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR 1939

Officers of the Sanitary Authority:-

The Clerk:

MR. R. B. TOLLETT.

Sanitary Inspector and Building Surveyor:

F. H. MARGERRISON, Cert. R. San. I.,
M.S.I.A.

Additional Sanitary Inspector:

F. A. LODGE, Cert. R. San. I. and
Meat and Other Foods, Cert. M.S.I.A.

Evacuation Officer (and A.R.P. Organiser):

MR. CHAS. C. MILLS.

Medical Officer of Health:

ALAN MILLER M.B. Ch.B.

To the Chairman and Members of the Driffield Rural District Council.

My report for the past year is a very much shortened one as advised in the Minister of Health's circular of 19th July, 1940.

The past year, from a Public Health point of view, has been remarkable in this area because of the reception and housing of a large number of evacuees from Hull and Sunderland. Despite the influx of children and mothers from these towns and the consequent visiting and contacts with various sources no epidemic or even increase in infectious disease has been apparent as was almost to be expected.

Other noteworthy points are that housing work has gone ahead and that the water supply has practically been completed.

GOVERNMENT EVACUATION SCHEME

This Rural District is a Reception Area under the above scheme and arrangements were made to accommodate large numbers of the civil population. All the houses were visited by specially appointed persons and information obtained as to available accommodation.

The evacuation of HULL took place on the 1st and 2nd September and the following numbers were received and billeted in this district.

Unaccompanied School Children	526
Other persons:-	
Helpers and Teachers	112
Mothers & Young Children	332
Total	444
	970

The evacuation of SUNDERLAND took place on the 9th and 10th September, and the following numbers were received and billeted in this district.

Unaccompanied School Children	790
Other persons:-	
Helpers & Teachers	109
Mothers & Young Children	244
Total	353
	1,143

The total numbers originally received and the numbers remaining in the district on the 31st December were as follows:-

	School Children	Pre School Children	Expectant Mothers	Non Expectant Mothers and others	Teachers	Helpers	Total
Numbers originally received	1316	350	11	215	120	101	2113
Numbers remaining on 31st Dec. 1940	808	27	2	26	52	36	949
Percent. of evacuees returned home during this period	38.60	98.28	81.81	83.35	40	64.35	55.08

Health and General Condition of School Children

A large majority of the children were weighed and measured soon after arrival. This was repeated prior to the closing of school for Christmas and in almost every case considerable increases were registered both in weight and stature.

Many cases of skin diseases have occurred amongst the children - impetigo and scabies being particularly prevalent.

The establishment of a Sick Bay to treat skin diseases and other ailments is being considered. This will prove to be of the greatest value and will remove an unreasonable burden from the householders.

SECTION A

VITAL STATISTICS

Area: 98,423 acres

Rateable Value: £32,202

Product of a Penny Rate: £126

BIRTHS

		Total	M.	F.
Live Births	1. Total Births	152	76	76
	2. Legitimate	142	70	72
	3. Illegitimate	10	6	4
Still Births	1. Total	5	3	2
	2. Legitimate	4	2	2
	3. Illegitimate	1	1	-

Birth Rate: 14.4 per 1,000 population

Illegitimate Birth Rate: 9.4 " " "

Still Birth Rate: 3.8 " " total births.

DEATHS

	Total	M.	F.
All Ages	152	58	67
Death Rate	9.7 per 1,000 population		
Infants under 1 year	12	"	"
Infantile mortality rate	84.5 per 1,000 live births		

Causes of Death were:-

Scarlet Fever	2	Influenza	1	Tuberculosis of respiratory system	1
Cancer	13	Diabetes	3	Other tuberculosis	
Cerebral Haemorrhage	7	Heart disease	24	disease	1
Bronchitis	4	Other circulatory diseases	7	Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	3
Pneumonia	7	Liver diseases	2	Acute and Chronic Nephritis	5
Other respiratory diseases	2	Digestive "	2	Other defined diseases	15
Congenital debility (prematurity)	3	Senility	27		
		Violence	6		

SECTION B

General Provision of Health Services of the Area.

In this Section little change of note has taken place in this area.

SECTION C

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area

WATER

Water Supply Scheme. Work on the Council's Scheme for the whole area has been proceeded with, and was near completion at the end of the year. Stand-taps for general supply have been erected in the villages and private services are being connected up.

Bacteriological Examinations. Eight samples of water have been obtained and forwarded to the Clinical Research Association Ltd., London, for bacteriological examination.

All these samples have been taken from private wells, the reports on which show that five were fit for drinking and three unfit, the latter being discontinued and water for domestic purposes taken from the Council's main.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

The character and efficiency of the drainage and sewerage in the various parishes remain the same as set out in my Annual Report for 1937.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

No material change from the conditions as set out in my previous reports has been made.

For all the new houses that have been erected, water closets have been provided.

The village of NAFFERTON is the only one in which the collection of Night-soil is undertaken. The work is let out by contract, the night-soil becoming the property of the Contractor who disposes of it on land in his own occupation.

The scavenging of refuse from the R.A.F. Station, and of indestructible household refuse from the villages is carried out by Contract and disposed of by tipping.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

The work done in the Public Health Department during the year is shown in the following tabular statement compiled by the Senior Sanitary Inspector:-

(The numbers marked x appear also under Section D, "Housing" or include numbers which appear under that heading).

HOUSING

Dwelling houses inspected	112 x
Number of subsequent visits	16
Informal Notices served	19
" " complied with	19
Statutory Notices served	none
Dwelling-houses found overcrowded	7
Privies converted to W.C.'s	1
" " to Pail Closets	33
Pail Closets converted to W.C.'s	2
New houses built (Private enterprise)	6
" " (Council Houses)	68

DISINFECTION & DISINFESTATION

Houses disinfected after cases of infectious diseases	53
Schools disinfected	2
Houses disinfested. Eradication of bugs, etc.	3

NUISANCES

Total number of nuisances found	17
" " remedied	17

WATER SUPPLIES

New houses supplied from water mains	6
Council houses " " " " "	68
Wells closed owing to water being unsafe	3
Samples of water sent for bacteriological examination	8

FACTORIES

Number of Inspections of Factories	41
" " " " other premises	2
" Defects found:-	
Want of cleanliness	5
Sanitary conveniences	3
" Defects remedied	8

SHOPS

Defects found:-	
Defective sanitary conveniences	4
Defects remedied:-	
Defective sanitary conveniences	4

CAMPING SITES

Number of sites used for camping purposes during the year 1939 (for short periods only)	3
Number of Licences issued under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936	none
Number of campers (estimated) resident in the area at one time during the summer of 1939	17

SECTION D

HOUSING

(The numbers marked x appear also under Section C, "Sanitary Inspection of the Area", or include numbers which appear under that heading).

1. Inspection of Dwelling-Houses during the Year:-

1. (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)

1. (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	92
2. Number of dwelling houses (included in sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	Nil

2. Remedy of Defects during the year without service of formal Notices:-

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Sanitary Inspector 11

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year:-

No Statutory action taken during the year.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

During the year, the Minister confirmed Clearance Orders in respect of 49 houses submitted to him in the previous year.

The Council's Housing Scheme, as regards building in hand, was completed during the year in the parishes of Kilham, Kirkburn, Middleton, Nafferton and North Frodingham.

SECTION E

Inspection and Supervision of Food

The following tables show what has been done by way of inspection:-

MILK SUPPLY

No. of Dairies and Cowsheds on the Register	502
" " Cows (approximately)	1400
" " Inspections made	141
" " Defects found and remedied	33

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

No. of Slaughter-houses on the Register	18
" " Inspections of Slaughter-houses	491
" " Defects found and remedied	38
" " Ordinary visits for purpose of the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924	368
" " Special visits on account of occasional slaughter and suspected diseased meat	23
" " Licensed Slaughtermen on Register	37

The following table shows the numbers of each class of animal killed and inspected, the approximate number of animals killed being arrived at after careful consideration:-

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

	<u>Cattle</u> <u>excluding</u> <u>Cows</u>	<u>Cows</u>	<u>Calves</u>	<u>Sheep</u> <u>and</u> <u>Lambs</u>	<u>Pigs</u>
Number killed (approx.)	850	55	32	600	8,000
Number inspected	420	31	19	220	6,200

(continued overleaf)

	<u>Cattle</u> <u>excluding</u> <u>Cows</u>	<u>Cows</u>	<u>Calves</u>	<u>Sheep</u> <u>and</u> <u>Lambs</u>	<u>Pigs</u>
All diseases except Tuberculosis:-					
Whole Carcasses condemned	3	2	3	19	14
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	11	3	1	3	21
Tuberculosis only:-					
Whole Carcasses condemned	6	2	-	-	6
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	2	5	-	-	41

SECTION F

Prevalence and Control over Infectious and other Diseases

The following cases were notified:

Whooping cough	2 cases
Scarlet Fever	45 "
Diphtheria	10 "
Enteric Fever	1 "
Erysipelas	3 "
Pneumonia	14 "

Deaths were:- Pneumonia 7: Scarlet Fever 2.

All the diphtheria, most of the Scarlet and the Enteric case were admitted to the Isolation Hospital.

Tuberculosis

<u>Age Periods</u>	<u>New Cases</u>				<u>Deaths</u>			
	<u>Respiratory</u>		<u>Non Respiratory</u>		<u>Respiratory</u>		<u>Non Respiratory</u>	
	<u>M.</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>
0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
15	1	2	-	1	-	-	-	-
25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
65 upwards	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

No action has been found necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1935.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

ALAN MILNER, M.B.

"The Elms",
Nafferton.

